

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Garland STEPHENS

Serial No.: **09/655,929** Art Unit: **3692**
Filed: **09/06/2000** Examiner: **Nga B NGUYEN**

For: **Method and system for determining, contracting to exchange, and accounting for matched sets of offsetting cash flows**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted today via the Office electronic filing system (EFS-Web) in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6 (a)(4).

Date: 1/7/10

Signature: /diane taylor/

Printed Name: Diane Taylor

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.181(a)**

The following is in response to the Notice of Abandonment mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereafter, "Office") on December 24, 2009. The Notice indicates that the abandonment was the result of a failure to timely file a reply to the Office letter dated July 7, 2009.

Our records indicate (and are confirmed by the PAIR system) that the application has been prematurely abandoned, as Applicant has until January 7, 2010, to file a response with a three-month extension request.

As Applicant is filing herewith a response and extension request, Applicant respectfully requests the Office to withdraw the holding of Abandonment as it is due to Office error. In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the holding of abandonment be withdrawn and the case forwarded for substantive examination.

ALTERNATIVELY, PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(B)

In the event that the Office determines that the requirements for withdrawal of the holding of abandonment have not been fully met, it is respectfully requested that the included Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally under 37 CFR 1.137(b) be considered and granted and the Office Action never-the-less be corrected and reissued correctly for Applicant's response. To that end, the Office is authorized to charge the fee of \$1620.00 from the undersigned's deposit account, 14-1437 in the event it is deemed required.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Michael J. Dimino/

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